

## Water Integration Project Meeting Minutes January 8, 2003, ID-N

### Attendees:

Beatrice Brailsford	Snake River Alliance	<a href="mailto:srabb@earthlink.net">srabb@earthlink.net</a>
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### **Developing Science Strategies (see Science Strategy handouts at <http://www.inel.gov/environment/water/>)**

Al Yonk reported on the roadmapping and science strategy development effort starting with the progression from identification of deficiencies and science and technology needs in FY99 and development of the INEEL vadose zone/groundwater roadmap in FY00. The roadmapping process is being used to prioritize research that will improve scientific understanding of subsurface processes and contaminant behavior beneath the INEEL.

Uncertainties in predictions of contaminant behavior and predictions or risk assessment were identified, tied to milestones, and a value engineering session was held to prioritize the uncertainties. Interviews were conducted to determine operational research and development needs which were organized into the following categories:

- Characterization methods,
- Development of better monitoring methods,
- Source term research,
- Research on caps/barriers/grouting/remediation,
- Actinide geochemistry research,
- Plutonium geochemistry/transport,
- Carbon-14 research,
- Development models and codes,
- $K_d$  value research,
- Leak detection methodology, and
- Database needs.

The next steps in the science strategy development will be to match problems to the uncertainty list, select prioritized research and development needs, and perform a knowledge search of what is known and ongoing research. The science strategy will include how the need will be addressed, research objectives, a funding approach and estimate, and a schedule.

The funding approach may include numerous components, including, for example, a site-specific DOE Environmental Management Science Program (EMSP) directed call. The results of efforts to identify research and development needs will be important during development of the funding approach.

The research strategy should be complete by April 15, 2003 and a draft call for proposals should be ready for stakeholder review by April 30, 2003.

The group discussed the implications of working under continuing resolution, timing of calls for proposals, the availability of funds from DOE Environmental Management, and fitting science into the 2012 cleanup schedule.

### **Annual Report**

Some additional comments have been received on the Annual Report. These should be addressed and the report finalized by the end of the week.

### **Upcoming Stakeholder Involvement Opportunities.**

The Water Integration Project participated in a series of legislative briefings -organized by the Idaho Council on Industry and the Environment. The three briefings s were attended by approximately seventy-five elected state and county officials, including the new attorney general and a number of the new state legislators. Presentations by water users, and the forestry, mining, and food producing industries were also part of the workshops.

Twelve people attended the last two-day session of the International Association of Public Participation Training in December. The goal of this training is to improve INEEL public involvement skills and efforts.

The next monthly meeting that highlights one aspect of the Water Integration Project will be on February 5<sup>th</sup> and the topic will be the status of the conceptual model effort. The March 5<sup>th</sup> meeting will be on plans for 2003 hydrogeology field tours.

Dave Rydalch asked if work with the High Country RC&D will be continued. Jan said she would check with them on scheduling a meeting.

Adjourned at 1:55 p.m.

### **Next Meeting**

The next team meeting will be on January 15<sup>th</sup>.